

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 17:05:10 1994
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: Re "From Beverages to Oscar"
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 07:31:13 EST5EDT
Message-Id: <1994Dec13.073113.15493@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

I've been using a copy for several years at Maryland Radio Center, a local ham store which has one room dedicated to a ham library, with all back issues of the major magazines. From Beverages to Oscar (or FBT0) is an astoundingly useful program for finding articles, and is infinitely superior to ANY annual index, even the cumulative 5 year indexes that Ham Radio magazine had. (Being a computerized data base where you can search on any word in the descriptor field automatically makes it superior to any paper-based system.) I started writing a review of it several years ago for the QRP Quarterly but never sent it in; I kept waiting for upgrades to see if the problems would be fixed. Many were, some remain, and now it's been a few years since the last update. I wrote to him twice this year with questions, received no answer.

Availability of the program--I have no idea. I assume he still sells it. The last I heard, he had a 5 year version available for CQ magazine (and he gave me a review copy of it). He had not updated the main data base for several years, so had done just the CQ part of it, and made it available separately. I don't know if he is still updating the rest of the data, or if he's getting burned out. (It has to be an incredible amount of work for a relatively small return on his time invested.) Talking to him a couple years ago on the phone, he was moving into a new house, I think, and that plus other real-world concerns were putting the update at a lower priority. (Maybe just getting tired of it all :-)) as it's a tremendously time consuming project.) I'm not sure, but I think the last update of the data base was 1990, which is making it more and more outdated--skips a lot of articles.

Warts--Yes, it most absolutely had its wars, and I documented many of them in the review. One, which he later corrected in the latest version, was that TS 440S is different from TS-440S and so is TS440S; you could come up with three different lists of articles on the same rig, depending on how the data entry was keyboarded, and the lists would have some, but not all, entries in common. This applied to a large number of designators which had (or could have) dashes in them. As I recall, there was a nonstandard abbreviation for "generator", so if you searched on the "obvious" abbreviation (instead of the full word) you would come up with a fairly large list and be blissfully unaware that if you used his other, nonstandard abbreviation you would come up with many more additional articles; in fact, that latter list had more than the first one. There were other warts related to these

two, but you learned to work around them. The worst, which I consider totally unacceptable: if you do a search on a certain word, you then come up with a list of many items to dig through. You can then narrow that list in a number of ways. For instance, let's say you want to narrow it down by looking for a certain word in the description field. But if you spell it wrong, or if that word is not used in any of the entries, it tells you that it cannot find it, then aborts back to square one--it dumps the entire list you sorted through initially, and you have to start all over again with a fresh search. This wastes tremendous amounts of time and is very frustrating.

The bottom line--FBT0 is astoundingly useful in finding articles, but you absolutely MUST be aware of all the idiosyncrasies (I can send details) to make full use of it. It has not been updated for several years, reducing its usefulness significantly, but still a very helpful program. It's been a love/hate relationship ever since I first used it, but only about 10% hate :-)

BTW, I wouldn't bother with his printed versions for individual magazines; they are OK, but you only get one magazine's worth of listings and for the price of several of those you could have the computer disk, and the disk is vastly superior to any paper products, including his, since you can search on any word in the description fields.

73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

--

Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 18:47:39 1994
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 12:00:22 -0500 (EST)
From: "Kenneth R. Edwards" <ea3b@america.net>
Subject: Re: 10mtr Contest results
Message-Id: <Pine.SV4.3.91.941213115814.16825A-100000@atl1.america.net>

I also was able to work a bit of the 10M contest, and was able to successfully contact several states in the NE (W2/3's) with a Mizuho 10M handheld. Felt pretty good about battery power and a whip antenna being able to reach out like that on SSB!

--Ken

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Dec 14 00:12:01 1994
From: rheiss@tuba.aix.calpoly.edu
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 18:37:43 -0800
Message-Id: <9412140237.AA29347@tuba.aix.calpoly.edu>
Subject: Re: 10mtr Contest results

Maybe it was asteroid-near-miss propagation, who knows! My first 36 QSOs on

10m SSB came very easily using only 3 Watts PEP into a 20m long wire. The competition was light in this class last year so I may get some wallpaper. :-)

Worked much of the US east coast, south, and midwest, plus Quebec, and Ontario which was loudest of all. Also heard but did not brave the pileups for New Brunswick, Alaska, Hawaii, New Zealand, Argentina, and VP2V. No doubt there were even more openings while I wasn't paying attention. Wild!

73-- Robert K06KA

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 19:53:36 1994
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 11:36:08 PST
From: Mike J Pulley <Mike_J_Pulley@ccm.ch.intel.com>
Message-Id: <941213113608_2@ccm.hf.intel.com>
Subject: 40m Beacon - SUMMARY (Short version)

Text item: Text_1

SUMMARY REPORT ON THE 40m "F" BEACON
by Mike Pulley, WB4ZKA
Mike_J_Pulley@ccm.hf.intel.com

First, thanks to all who have helped in the first ever DF hunt (not to be confused with the Fox Hunt) on the qrp-l Internet list! The project seemed to spark lots of interest among list members.

SYNOPSIS (THE SHORT STORY!)

We have no definitive answer, but most of the evidence suggests the "F" beacon may come from the former Soviet Union. The beacon appears to be directed in a very narrow beam across the U.S. West, or perhaps a broad beam that covers the northern Pacific with very little overlap into North America.

The "F" beacon on or about 7039.5 has only been heard in a diagonal NW to SE tract extending through coastal WA and OR, all of CA, and parts of NV, UT, and AZ. The states bordering this tract were CO and TX, neither of which could hear it. The strongest signal strength is in Portland, OR and Seattle, WA. No reports from Mexico or Central America were received, but Brazil in South America cannot hear the beacon, so the tract doesn't propagate that far.

The FCC field office in Ferndale, WA reports known "F" beacons on

other frequencies emanating from cities within the former Soviet Union. The FCC did not hear the 7039.5 beacon on the nights they monitored, though.

Bill, WK6V, characterized the CW as "very sloppy code", sometimes not sending proper "F"s. It misses dits and dahs here and there.

This kind of behavior implies an unsophisticated keyer like a coding wheel or continuous loop paper tape.

I've received some rogue data, which I'm trying to justify. Two hams hear the beacon very well in Portland, but a third ham in Portland and Laura in nearby Burnaby hear nothing. Three or more hams hear it in the L.A. area, but another ham does not. Most of the observations indicate the strongest signal is NW of CA, but one ham DFed it to the SE. I can explain this data away, but only at the risk of missing something significant.

While investigating the "F" beacon, hams on this list also discovered two other beacons -- transmitting "C" and "S" -- on the same frequency with the same characteristics. I suspect all three are related.

Various SWL books mention the "single letter beacons". Their purpose remains unknown, but the books speculate that the beacons are for propagation, navigation, or some obscure secret message transmissions involving interactions of beacons from different frequencies. Personally, I lean toward the propagation beacon theory.

If this conclusion is true, the West Coast can use the beacon to predict propagation into Eastern Europe.

THE INTERNET AS A DFING NETWORK

The Internet is an ideal place to track on-the-air radio curiosities like beacons. In only two weeks, we have collected observations from 26 hams representing 5 countries and 14 states and provinces. We exchanged clues with the FCC and the ARRL, too, and uncovered a few other leads to follow if we want. The result is a pretty good composite picture of the "F" beacon in a very short time.

The key to keeping the S/N ratio high is to handle the bulk of the DFing correspondence on email. Just good netiquette.

--- END OF THE SHORT STORY. IF YOU WANT MORE DETAILS, EMAIL ME

AT Mike_J_Pulley@ccm.hf.intel.com FOR THE FULL REPORT. ---

===== 30 =====

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Dec 14 00:51:45 1994
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 21:11:02 -0600 (CST)
From: Rudy Hardy <rudyh@tenet.edu>
Subject: <didn't bother with a subject>
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9412132100.A16451-01000000@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>

unsubscribe qrp-l@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 17:23:44 1994
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 09:40:24 MST
Message-Id: <9412131640.AA27994@rgfn.epcc.Edu>
From: ab253@rgfn.epcc.Edu (Andrew Hair)
Subject: Coax Question

Hello,
This is my first posting to this reflector. I have been reading the postings for a couple of weeks now and really have enjoyed them. I like to go backpacking and I take my MFJ 9020 with me. About the drift problem, mine seems fairly stable except under extreme weather conditions. When hiking in the Summer, I take a small umbrella with me to shade the rig, otherwise, it will heat up and drift "up" the band rather quickly. It doesn't seem to drift too badly in cold weather, but I haven't tested it out in really cold weather yet.

At any rate, I am thinking of using a new roll of coax in a QRP related, portable antenna project, but I have a question about the coax I plan to use. I was given a rather large roll of what I think is 50 ohm coax but am not sure. The label on the coax reads:

BELDEN 9203 M017/28 RG 058 Mil-C-17 16428 GF:

Does anyone know what this stuff is. I think it is a military version of RG 58 at 50 ohms, but I am not sure. I would really appreciate some advice.

73's

Andrew Hair, AB5WB
El Paso, Texas

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From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 20:47:38 1994
From: stockton@stockton.ppco.com
Message-Id: <9412140000.AA10045@stockton.ppco.com>
Subject: Re: Coax Question
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 18:00:41 -0600

Andrew,

BELDEN 9203 M017/28 RG 058 Mil-C-17 16428 GF: appears to have the same characteristics as RG-58 according to an old Belden catalog I have. About the only difference is the jacket is listed as "non-contaminating PVC". It also meets a couple of milspecs that the RG-58s don't. Its VP is 66%.

73's, Glen K5UP
ges@ppco.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Dec 14 00:25:27 1994
From: stockton@stockton.ppco.com
Message-Id: <9412140002.AA10058@stockton.ppco.com>
Subject: Re: Coax Question
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 18:02:34 -0600

Andrew,

BELDEN 9203 M017/28 RG 058 Mil-C-17 16428 GF: appears to have the same characteristics as RG-58 according to an old Belden catalog I have. About the only difference is the jacket is listed as "non-contaminating PVC". It also meets a couple of milspecs that the RG-58s don't. Its VP is 66%.

73's, Glen K5UP
ges@ppco.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 03:49:45 1994
Date: Mon, 12 Dec 1994 17:25:08 -0800 (PST)
From: Jim Markle <jm@crl.com>
Subject: Re: Ding Dong the test is dead
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.941212172426.11059A-1000000@crl10.crl.com>

Very, Very COOL!

Congratulations.

KB50B

On Mon, 12 Dec 1994, David Adams wrote:

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> Let it be known throughout the land, the wicked old code test is
> dead! As of 12/10/94 Dave Adams is now a general!!! Only 5 days
> before losing credit for the written due to csce expiration! I hope
> to scam advanced this saturday in cupertino, and then due battle with
> the evil that is 20 wpm.
>
> 73 de Dave, n9uxu/ag
>
```

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 20:27:10 1994
From: ab4el@Cybernetics.NET (Stephen Modena)
Message-Id: <9412131721.AA07784@Cybernetics.NET>
Subject: Electric co., kites, New Foundland
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 12:21:05 -0500 (EST)

Just a couple of comments:

Getting on the electric utility co.: A friend K4HJJ with his 4-square phased array on his city lot was really sensitive about cycling street lights. I was with him one evening when he called out the utility guy...and the utility guy was amazed (consternated) when we drove 1-mile (!) and Ray pointed to the offending bulb in a small shopping plaza. But...the guy got in his cherry-picker and changed it! And the noise went away. The route Ray used to get prompt action was complaints, not to the FCC, but to the *utilities commission* about service failure.

BTW: if you suspect a faulty insulator, the (smart) utilities use an ultra-sonic parabolic listener with a hunting scope: faulty HVAC insulators give off ultrasound and can be ID'd at a distance *unequivacally* according to an acquaintance who does just that for the power company in WMass. (It overcomes fears of error given the disruption to service involved in swapping one of them.)

New Foundland and no electricity: A long, long time ago, I flew Iceland Air to Europe (DC-6, 20 hours passage :^) and we landed at Gander. I could see the ground on approach: oh my! what an isolated place. Moonscape Keflavik (Iceland) was inviting in comparison. When you've touched down on those two places, you begin to realize that if a crippled plane can't make it to those backup fields--you're goners in the North Atlantic seas in Winter (maybe even in Summer).

About kite antennas: a couple of years back I worked a station in WNY (from NC) on 75 meters at a time when the band was almost closed from thunder storms and poor propagation (still had sunlight). For 100 watts, he was S9+30 because his antenna was 500 feet of wire held up by a balloon. And he specifically warned that the antenna *must* be set up to continuously and effectively discharge the constantly accumulating static charge from the atmosphere. That one must protect oneself and the equipment from severe jolts. :^)

Obligatory QRP: I made a note that tomorrow night (Wed..EST) I will try to pounce on the FOX N2IPY.

--

73//Steve/AB4EL ab4el@Cybernetics.NET

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 23:32:29 1994
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 20:00:46 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9412140200.AA10375@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: Electricity

Gang,

I didn't have to resort to calling the FCC or the PUC. Sometime today TU Electric finally came out and changed the offending light.

I just worked a 9 in Mishawaka, IL and got a 569 with my 0.95W using the new OHR Explorer. Got nice comment on keying. So another winner from OHR.

I'll be at the hunt tomorrow night for sure. So list for the QRPP signal from K5F0/QRPP. :-)

dit dit

Chuck Adams K5F0 CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 10:22:58 1994
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 06:06:56 -0600 (CST)
From: Theodore Drake <tdrake@metronet.com>
Subject: Re: EXPLORER II -- HOMEBREW???
Message-Id: <Pine.HPP.3.90.941213060145.3872D-100000@fohnix.metronet.com>

Please remember that we haven't heard from the Contest Chairman on this, and I assume Cam is waiting to look at the kit instructions. I have an OHR explorer on order for 40 and I'm eagerly awaiting his decision as to it's 'legality' for HB sprints, etc.

IMHO ARCI should do everything possible to encourage Home Built as well as Home Brew rigs. The fellow running one of these knows FAR more about the innards of his black box than the appliance operator and isn't afraid to get out the soldering iron when something goes wrong or to try a modification -- try getting them to do that with their \$6K ICOMs :-)

There are plenty of us who will admit that career and family obligations severely limit the time we can devote to HB [let alone operating] but we do what we can.

The decision of the judge[s] is final however and no hard feelings will ensue, just my 2mw worth.

73 'Doc' W5TB

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 04:10:36 1994
Message-Id: <2eec9d6b.IBBS1@ibbs1.com>
Date: Mon, 12 Dec 1994 12:58:51 -0600
From: "CLAY WYNN" <ID0077@ibbs1.com>
Subject: EXPLORER II NOT HOMEBREW

>Official QRP ARCI Homebrew definition:

>1. Completely home constructed gear, original design or a copy of
>another's design and not a kit.

>2. "Kits" which do not include, or have available, a step-by-step
>construction manual (i.e. not a Heathkit).

>3. Kits (such as Heathkit) or commercial gear that contains a major
>modification to improve or alter significantly its performance. Examples
>include redesigned front-ends, alteration of one band for another band,
>or complete repackaging and modification involving a change in use such
>as home-based to portability. Completely home-built transverters used
>with commercial gear also qualifies as homebrew. Cosmetic changes such as

>
> It appears then that the challenge is to sufficiently hack the rig with
> mods so as to requalify it for homebrew. Hmmm, maybe this could be
> another I'NET project? I would like to take advantage of the oversize
> cabinet to 1) add back in the audio band pass filter and bypass switch,
> 2) revise the final or add another stage to get the power out back up
> to 4 or 5 watts, 3) add a switchable audio amp and speaker, 4) add a keyer,
> 5) add a digital freq. readout, 6) add a switchable RF preamp.

I was wondering, would it be sufficient to qualify as Homebrew if one
threw away the step-by-step instructions and build the rig just from
the parts list and placement layout? I realize that there would be a grey
area: how do you prove you didn't use the step-by-step instructions? You
could have two hams witness the opening of the package and destruction of
said instructions... (maybe that's overkill...)

> Does the "step-by-step" disqualifier also apply to the A&A, NN1G,
> NORCAL 40, NORCAL 40A, S&S, SIERRA, 40-40, 624, Kanga, etc. kits?

I have the NE30-40 from NN1G and the T2/R2 kits from Kanga and I can
definitely say: "These DO NOT come with step-by-step instructions".

And, I sure hope the NC40a does not come with step by step instructions.

I have found though, that a good parts layout diagram is invaluable. the
one in the NE30-40 rig was very large print and very detailed. On it you
can see the shaded foil like x-ray vision of the other side, every pin hole
for every component, and polarity and position of every part. It is very
easy to follow.

Now that I'm working on the Epiphyte 80m cw xcvr, I am finding out how
important the parts layout diagram really is. It does not show the
polarity of any of the Tantium or Electrolytic Caps. It does not show
which pin is pin 1 on any of the ICs. It does not show the position of
the holes for resistors that are on end, ie, are the holes North and South
or are they East to West. Oh well, I guess that just adds to the challenge
(and time required to build and debug) of building the board.

72,
km6wt

--
Mont Pierce

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+-----+
| Ham Call: KM6WT           Internet:  mont@netcom.com |
|   bands: 80/40/20/15/10/2 |
|   modes: cw,ssb,fm       |
+-----+
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From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 16:22:53 1994
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 11:30:32 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca>
Subject: Re: EXPLORER II NOT HOMEBREW
Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9412131132.C3593-0100000@random.ucs.mun.ca>

Hi Clay - I was reading the "mods" you wanted to make to the Explorer to make it "acceptable" for the homebrew category. You refer to making mods for adding back in the audio filter, mod for bringing power back to 5 watts and a few others to "bring" it back to spec. I think you may be trying to say that the Explorer is a stripped down Spirit. I believe the Explorer is a "new" design different from the Spirit. The Explorer I think is based on a NE-602 front end, where the Spirit uses an RF amp and Minicircuits mixer.

Actually I think the Explorer is going to more look like an upgraded Norcal 40 or 40-40 and a small step down from the MFJ 90xx design. All these use NE-602's with xtal filtering.

Actually I think the Explorer will be a welcome kit for the new hams getting into QRP - let's face it, the Heathkit type of assembly is REALLY NICE for beginners and the Explorer will make a great starter rig. If you want to be a purist (hi) stick with the NN1G Mark II's etc for a pseudo kit. By the way my comfort level is with the Classic/Spirit series since even though they do have great instructions they require you to be a builder who has some experience.

Have fun modding - maybe you should get a basket case HW-9 and tackle "homebrewing it"

72 Bob VO1DRB/WA6ERB

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 04:29:48 1994
Message-Id: <9412130259.AA29800@philadelphia.libertynet.org>
Date: Mon, 12 Dec 1994 21:59:52 -0500
From: adam@libertynet.org (Adam O'Donnell)
Subject: Homebrew and CW

I personally believe that the loss of interest in CW has had a direct impact on amateur homebrewing. All of us who have tried qrp know that is hard enough using CW let alone SSB.

And please don't blame the codeless techs. I started as one myself (I'm now a Tech+). I don't believe that it is any one group of people's fault that less than 5% of the amateur community even use CW (Remember that greater than 50% of amateurs have cw licenses. What does that tell you.) But if

interest can once again be _sparked_ in cw (i know. bad pun), interest in home brewing will go up accordingly.

Adam O'Donnell
adam@libertynet.org
N3RCS@KE3CZ.#EPA.PA.USA.NA

-- Math and alcohol don't mix. Please don't drink and derive.
-- Mathematicians Against Drunk Deriving (M.A.D.D.)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 13:02:57 1994
From: dwebster@netcom.com (Dennis Webster)
Message-Id: <199412131645.IAA09405@netcom19.netcom.com>
Subject: Re: Homebrew and CW
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 08:45:36 -0800 (PST)

>
> I personally believe that the loss of interest in CW has had a direct impact on
> amateur homebrewing. All of us who have tried qrp know that is hard enough
> using CW let alone SSB.

>
> And please don't blame the codeless techs. I started as one myself (I'm now
> a Tech+). I don't believe that it is any one group of people's fault that
> less than 5% of the amateur community even use CW (Remember that greater
> than 50% of amateurs have cw liscenses. What does that tell you.) But if
> interest can once again be _sparked_ in cw (i know. bad pun), interest in
> home brewing will go up accordingly.

>
I think you mixed up the numbers I have seen bantered about here and elsewhere. They are 5% of the hams homebrew and 40% (at least those that are not code free) use some CW. I'm not sure how accurate these numbers are. However, I agree with your premise that CW and Homebrewing go hand in hand.

72, Dennis

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|Dennis Webster WJ6H/QRP          * LESS IS MORE! *|
|dwebster@netcom.com              |
|-----|
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From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 04:39:31 1994
Date: Mon, 12 Dec 1994 21:45:38 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca>
Subject: Re: Kite antenna - watch out!
Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9412122138.B21174-0100000@random.ucs.mun.ca>

Hi Glen - enjoyed your comments on BIG winds and antennas - we usually

don't experience that out here in Newfoundland EXCEPT for this past weekend - I even hauled my MFJ Super Loop off of my balcony perch and brought it in the house to keep warm. The antenna, my wife and I never did keep warm since we lost electric power for two days (yes two days) in St. John's - seems like Father Winter broke 7 high voltage feeder towers (made of wood) and just about wiped out all of Newfoundland.

By the way that brings me to one of the "warmest" experiences I've had in a long time - I operated my qrp OHR Classic off of battery power into my long wire (that was coated with ice) and used a real candle light for filling in the log - NOW that is getting back to the basics - it was actually a neat feeling talking to the world (Italy, Germany, US and even Jim VE2KN over in that foreign country Quebec (inside Canadian joke) via battery and candle power. I think everyone should be a good Boy (Girl) Scout and prepare themselves for emergency operation at home - makes you feel that you can cope with the the "real" world out there when Mother Nature decides to get tough. Also for evening entertainment we sat around and listened to my Sony Shortwave Radio tuning in Radio Netherlands, Radio Germany, Radio Havana, BBC - all run off of batteries - you even forget after awhile that you need a TV....

By the way Glen getting back to the subject (??) I remember a problem I had with a 2 meter 5/8 whip on my VW camper - after driving a while it would desence the front end of my Icom IC-27A - I bet the static discharge was doing a job on the IC-27A's front end because I always had to ride the squelch higher and higher as I drove on. Probably needed some way to bleed off the charge. Does your theory hold true for that case Glen?

72 Bob V01DRB (with electricity and warmth again returning to my abode..)

On 12 Dec 1994, Glen Leinweber wrote:

> gang,
> Using a kite to launch a long-wire antenna is a risky business, even
> on a clear day with no clouds around. The danger arises from the electric
> field between the earth and ionosphere. This field is about one hundred
> volts per meter (in the vertical direction), and is always present. Any
> antenna launched into the clear blue yonder will acquire a charge large
> enough to wipe out a final transistor, or a receiver front end.
>
> So what's the difference between ordinary outdoor antennas and one
> attached to a kite? Earth's electric field is easily distorted by objects
> attached to ground, like a tree, or mast, or house (your tower doesn't
> have a few kilovolts between top and bottom). A kite-borne antenna
> protrudes into wide open spaces, where it very likely gets charged up.
> Your earth-bound antenna is attached to a mast or tree or house, where

> earth's electric field is greatly reduced.
>
> Here are some precautions for kite experimenters, or anyone who
> uses temporary outdoor antennas:
>
> -Add a choke coil to the antenna connector between centre pin and
> ground. This will leak away any charge that tries to accumulate. I see
> that most modern rigs don't provide a D.C. discharge path from antenna
> connector to ground - this is dangerous to your equipment.
> -This choke won't save you if you connect a charged antenna to
> your rig after you've put it up: either discharge the antenna to ground
> or connect the rig to antenna BEFORE putting it up.
>
> A few years ago I put up a two-meter 1/4 wave antenna on top of my
> tower. The coax snaked thru the window had no connector. When it started
> snowing, I noticed a snapping sound every twenty seconds or so. The end
> of the coax was arcing over from the charge accumulating in the coax
> capacitance. That cable was being charged five or ten kilovolts in only
> twenty seconds!
>
> So how about Bob in Newfoundland - did you put any antennas up
> during the big blow? Should be good for MANY extra dB gain. (Be patient
> for a reply while they restore his power). :-)
>
>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 19:02:50 1994
Message-Id: <9412130950.AA16809@kestrel.cqi.com>
Subject: Kite supported antennas
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 09:50:24 -0500 (EST)
From: "johnger" <johnger@cqi.com>

>During a recent QRP expedition to Cape Lookout, NC, our team tried
>out a kite-supported 450 foot longwire with a height of about 250
feet.
>We made a handful of contacts with the longwire, with signals
generally
>being on par with our verticals. Unfortunately, the wind died just

>before sunset, so we couldn't try the longwire on 80 and 160 during

>nighttime conditions.
>I'd like to hear from others who have tried kite-supported antennas.

>I'll be glad to answer any questions about our kite experiment.
>73 de Paul in Raleigh AA4XX@nando.com

There is an excellent article by Stan Gibilisco (W1GV) titled "Kite Supported Long Wires" in the Second (I think it's the "Second", definitely not the "First") Antenna Compendium (ARRL), p. 145. Stan discusses the theory of the very long wire antenna (radiation patterns, etc.) and the mechanics of the kite set-up (including kite recommendations based on wind speed, etc.). The article stresses obvious (power lines and lightning) and not-so-obvious (static discharge on a clear day) safety concerns. SEE ALSO Stan Gibilisco, "Balloons as Antenna Supports", Second (I think) Antenna Compendium (ARRL), p. 142.

73 de John -- AC4WC

P.S. I'll give a listen from northern VA for the FOX tomorrow nite!

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 16:49:22 1994
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 10:46:34 -0600
Message-Id: <199412131646.AA15651@metronet.com>
From: tdrake@metronet.com (theodore drake)
Subject: Libraries & ham magazines

de K5FO>Went through several years of HR (Ham Radio, a now defunct
>ham radio magazine that was the best technically there ever
>was IMHO) at the Dallas Library. That's why you should never
>through anything away. Give it to the library if it's books or
>magazines.

Thanks for the plug, Chuck. He's right gang -- libraries appreciate those old magazines and this makes a good individual/club project! We're always short on staff and money, so here's a way you can ensure that your gift is well received:

- 1- be sure the magazines are in good condition, complete, and in order by month and year [ask fellow hams for fills as needed]
- 2- place the magazines in binders if possible [here's where the club part comes in handy] [as an alternative offer to reimburse the library through club funding for binding]
- 3- choose an appropriate library -- University libraries and large public libraries are ideal
- 4- let the library know that your gift is unconditional, but that you would

While you're at it, check out the library's ham radio collection -- if it needs updating talk the local club into making a donation of appropriate materials. [the last time I checked the ARRL had a package deal at 50% off for such a project] Don't forget the QRP books!!

BTW -- I am not aware of ANY library with a set of QRP/ARCI journals, which means they could be gone forever if we're not careful. I'm not hinting here, as I don't think my library would be the appropriate place for them. A university with a strong ham radio club would make an ideal depository and could be placed on our subscription list to keep the collection up-to-date.

```

Theodore E. Drake, Ed.D.
Director of Library Services
Jenkins Garrett Library
Tarrant County Junior College
Ft. Worth, TX 76119
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.
.
W5TB/QRP

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<DELETE>

From owner-grp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 18:12:42 1994

From: PB13128@deere.com
Message-Id: <DACDXX21.PB13128.834626080094347FDACDXX21@TCP30.DX.DEERE.COM>
Date: 13 Dec 1994 08:26:08 GMT
Subject: NOTE 12/13/94 08:26:45

Subject: re Rich, W5RXP operating in other countries ?'s

To the best of my knowledge we do Not have reciprocity with Germany. To get the best updated information give the ARRL a call, they are very helpful.

As far as language goes--cw is universal but English is fine. I have a Czech Republic license, OK8ECZ, and had no problems working anyone on CW in English. I carried an MFJ-9020 and a vertical in my suitcase and had a great time. Even worked a few US stations with the setup from my hotel room.

One very important note--unless you take a battery and a solar cell to recharge it, or borrow a power supply from some one over there you may very well have power problems. I wound up buying a small 220 volt power supply and adding the correct power plug to it after I got to Czech.

So hope the above helps and that you have a good QRP holiday!

72 & 73,

Pete, NN9K
pb13128@deere.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 01:56:27 1994
Date: Mon, 12 Dec 1994 22:36:09 -0700 (MST)
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: oner, twoer, twofer?
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.941212223037.19242B-100000@ume>

I am relatively new to this qrp building stuff, especially pre 1990.
I am aware of the oner, recently revived in QST I think.

I think this was improved a a twofer or twoer (or are these two rigs?)
Nostalgic comments, sources appreciated. Just got my norcal sierrra
recently and my son is interested in building something smaller, simpler
with his dad.....time to grab the moment!
.73 and 72

```
*****
Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E)      *                VE6GK
EMAIL:  zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca          *
Packet: VE6GK@VE6YYC.#cgy.ab.can.na      *      "Power is no subsititute
Phone: (403) 271-5123  Fax: 225-1276      *                for skill."
*****
```

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 10:15:18 1994
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 06:37:58 -0500 (EST)
From: James Lyons <jlyons@CAM.ORG>
Subject: Re: oner, twoer, twofer?
Message-Id: <Pine.SOL.3.91.941213063524.21663A-100000@stratus>

Rick,

Send me your address and I'll send you a ONER kit (G-QRP club). You'll
have to get a XTAL for it though. Dan's small parts have them at, I
think, \$5.00 a piece (not sure about that). The ONER is a VERY SMALL kit
so it may not be best for a beginner but if you want to try it, be my guest.

72,

Jim, VE2KN

On Mon, 12 Dec 1994, Rick Zabrodski wrote:

```
> I am relativily new to this qrp building stuff, especially pre 1990.
> I am aware of the oner, recently revied in QST I think.
> I think this was improved a a twofer or twoer (or are these two rigs?)
> Nostalgic comments, sources appreciated. Just got my norcal sierrra
> recently and my son is interested in building something smaller, simpler
> with his dad.....time to grab the moment!
> .73 and 72
>
> *****
> Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E)      *                VE6GK
> EMAIL:  zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca          *
> Packet: VE6GK@VE6YYC.#cgy.ab.can.na      *      "Power is no subsititute
> Phone: (403) 271-5123  Fax: 225-1276      *                for skill."
```

> *****
>
>
>

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 22:35:45 1994
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 20:22:46 -0500
Message-Id: <199412140122.UAA10155@detroit.freenet.org>
From: af514@detroit.freenet.org (Hank Kohl)
Subject: operating in EU

You can get a license in Germany (as well as most of the EU community, if you are willing to pay the price!). This past August Stan, AC8W, and I (with our wives, of course) went to G and DL where we had G0/<call> and DL/<call> permits.

The highlight was operating at Chris G4BUE's shack at the G-QRP Summer Picnic. It was great to be DX (well, G is DX when you are QRP!) and to work DX that we can't hear here in North America.

G and DL are two of the more inexpensive to get a reciprocal license. F isn't too bad as well as PA. If I remember right ON was a bit pricey.

We had VHF/UHF radios, and I had a laptop and TNC (it was real neat to see what the DX PacketCluster was like in G) for packet.

The ARRL is good for info and forms. Most of the EU countries want bank checks in their currency for the reciprocal license.

Hank K8DD G0/K8DD DL/K8DD

/*

/* email af514@detroit.freenet.org

/* call k8dd mi qrp vice pres

/*

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 04:32:56 1994

Date: Mon, 12 Dec 1994 19:31:02 -0800 (PST)

From: Jeff Jones <jeffj@crl.com>

Subject: Price of HW-7?

Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.941212192854.26269A-100000@crl.crl.com>

I have a chance to buy a HW-7 (15,20,40) for \$90. The owner says it's in excellent condition and works great. Is this a good price for it? What are the caveats of this rig? It's has my 3 favorite bands so it can't be all bad. 8-)

Jeff

jeffj@crl.com | When I gave food to the poor, they call me a saint.

AB6MB | When I asked why the poor had no food, they call me a

| communist. Dom Camara KPFA 94.1 Bay Area Progressive Radio!

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Dec 14 01:16:42 1994

From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)

Subject: Re: Price of HW-7?

Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 22:30:54 EST5EDT

Message-Id: <1994Dec13.223054.24405@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

I would not pay anywhere near \$90 for an HW-7 myself, unless I were a collector and it was in good shape--just personal opinion. That amount of money for an HW-8 would be a good deal, though, if in good shape. The HW-7 receiver has several well known and substantial shortcomings--microphonics, tunable hum, shortwave broadcast breakthrough regardless of where the VFO is tuned (AM detection, wideband). Some of these problems are directly attributable to use of a MOSFET mixer (40673 in this case) in the receiver; the TenTec PM-series used the same basic mixer and had the same problems; I know, I've used some of them and still have a receiver I built from their old module set. Don't blame Heath for the problem--no one knew the answer

in those days; the W7EL article in the Aug 1980 issue of QST brought the answer--use of a double balanced mixer. I don't know about the versions of his article published in the ARRL Handbook in the last few years, nor the one in the ARRLs QRP Classics, but the original, uncut version went into detail on the problems and how he discovered the cure. His work made a significant advance in quality of direct conversion receivers.

There was an article by John Collins, KN1H, in the QRP Quarterly in 1986 or 87 about modifying the HW-7 receiver to use a double balanced mixer. He reported that he was not happy with the translation from his submission to the printed page, and indeed the article and diagram are somewhat hard to follow. I am planning on updating, and making readable, the article and will have my version in the QRP Quarterly some day.

Back to the original question, the HW-7 was a much less complex rig than the HW-8 (which in turn was much less complex than the HW9). If you are actually going to use the rig, it's probably OK although you'd probably do better with an HW-8 (again, personal opinion but probably shared by the majority of people). 73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

--

Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Dec 14 00:38:17 1994
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: Re QRP ARCI homebrew rules
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 22:15:34 EST5EDT
Message-Id: <1994Dec13.221534.23704@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

As I recall, isn't the homebrew bonus something like 2000 and 3000 points each for homebrew TX and RX, or 5000 if homebrew XCVR? Considering that you can work the same multipliers over on each and every band and rack up some incredibly large scores, multiplied by the power multipliers of 7 and 10, depending on power level, isn't a mere 5000 points maximum a bit....I hesitate to use the word "ludicrous"....let's just say that doesn't seem to be much of a true incentive to run a homebrew rig in the contest. As I recall, the multiplier for HB used to be significantly larger; maybe it's time for a bit of heresy: perhaps, in these days of kits with excellent instructions which disqualify them, perhaps we should do away with the homebrew bonus completely? Considering the power multipliers of 7 and 10, as well as being able to count multipliers on each band, the homebrew "bonus" is somewhat of a joke, anyhow. 73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

--

Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 12:43:18 1994
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 10:53:40 -0500 (EST)
From: "DONALD A. COLEMAN (EXT. 2850)" <DACOLEMAN@fair1.fairfield.edu>
Subject: Re: qrp-secret secrets
Message-Id: <01HKLBUAW1YA8ZH225@fair1.fairfield.edu>

My best "qrp" story is that I was once a qrp antenna! I used my body as a "temporary" 40-meter antenna on ECARS (7255 service net on ssb). I connected a piece of wire to the 100-watt sideband rig and held on very firmly to the far end of the lead so I wouldn't burn my fingers. Got reports up to q5 s7 as far south as the Carolinas from here in Ct.

Crazy!--right? You bet.

72.909388

Don Coleman, W1V0Q

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 19:28:37 1994
From: J_Custin@m1.cambrex.com
Message-Id: <seeda4f3.056@m1.cambrex.com>
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 13:24:10 -0500
Subject: Ramsey SX-20

has anybody out there on the info highway seen any reviews of the Ramsey SX-20 10 watt transceiver? I would appreciate any opinions, comments, ideas about same. tnx.

John Custin, de WB2KQW

reply to <camnet.masterpo.J Custin>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 18:39:14 1994
From: "Leonard J Popyack, Jr." <popyack1@ers.rl.af.mil>
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 11:01:46 EDT
Message-Id: <8269.popyack1@ers.rl.af.mil_POPMail/PC_3.2.2>
Subject: Rick Cambell's R2 ,T2 ?? Anyone Built One??

HI. I am seriously considering ordering the parts to built up one of Ricks R2 Boards. Has anyone built these? Any pointers would be most helpfull. Kudos to Rick for a super series of articles!!

Len WF2V

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Dec 14 01:55:50 1994
Message-Id: <9412140146.AA16785@philadelphia.libertynet.org>
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 20:46:09 -0500
From: adam@libertynet.org (Adam O'Donnell)
Subject: The 40-40

I got to ask: What do you think of it? What was the building level difficulty?
And finally, How difficult is qrp cw. I have had one QSO and that was at
50 watts....

Adam O'Donnell
adam@libertynet.org
N3RCS@KE3CZ.#EPA.PA.USA.NA

-- Math and alcohol don't mix. Please don't drink and derive.
-- Mathematicians Against Drunk Deriving (M.A.D.D.)

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 13:49:20 1994
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 08:36:02 PST
From: Mike J Pulley <Mike_J_Pulley@ccm.ch.intel.com>
Message-Id: <941213083602_1@ccm.hf.intel.com>
Subject: The rise of QRP on the bands

Text item: Text_1

You can't swing a cat on 40m CW without hitting a QRP station!

Last night, I spent 3 hours hunkered down with my new 40-40
stalking elusive DX big game. At this stage, just about any
state outside of AZ and CA are big game for me.

Of the 6 QSOs I engaged, 3 were with other QRP stations. We
virtually stumbled over one another! I'm reminded of a Gary
Larson "Far Side" cartoon where a pasture of fleecy animals
suddenly realizes that every one of them is actually a wolf in a
sheep costume.

"For crying out loud! Aren't there _any_ sheep left in this
pasture?"

Keep up the good work, QRP hunters! We're gaining on the QRO
flock!

Regards,

-- Mike, WB4ZKA

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Dec 14 01:29:07 1994
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: Re: usenet news group
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 22:47:12 EST5EDT
Message-Id: <1994Dec13.224712.24405@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

Yes, as you pointed out in your private e-mail to me, one fact that many people overlook is that a newsgroup is threaded--you can follow a topic from start to finish by having the system follow the thread (common subject lines). Of course, the downside to that is that there is a very common tendency to use the R(eply) function to send a comment, in order to get the system to copy the address without you having to type it in, then not changing the subject line (an option it does give you) and then talking about something unrelated--this degrades the value of threaded operation somewhat, but still better than a mailing list. As I mentioned in my private e-mail to you, someone ought to take an unscientific straw poll, by private e-mail only, not with copies to the net, with NO comments included, just a simple vote for newsgroup or mailing list (all comments on both sides of the issue have been heard repeatedly--the same facts on both sides are well known); that person would then tally the results and post them to the net, clearly labelled as what they are, a nonbinding, unscientific straw poll.

I hereby volunteer to take such a poll--this is completely unscientific, nonbinding, totally inaccurate and insignificant from a statistical viewpoint, etc, but with that in mind...

Please send ME, and me alone--no copy to the QRP list, please--of your preference for newsgroup or mailing list; you need not include comments to support your position, since comments have been flying from right and left for months. I will tally the preferences on both sides and announce the results to the QRP list for what it is, a nonbinding straw poll for entertainment purposes only. (If someone wants to propose that we actually do this and start the process, that's up to them.) Again, do not send copies of your vote to the list and clutter up lots of mailboxes--send to me only (this is in accordance with longstanding policy and netiquette) and no need to include comments since they will not be recorded or retained. 73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

--

Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 19:54:01 1994
From: DBECKMAN@jscde.jsc.nasa.gov
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 12:30:26 CDT
Subject: VFO ON A CHIP - another approach
Message-Id: <C1991295F@jscde.jsc.nasa.gov>

FYI, Maxim has announced a new chip they call a "High Frequency Waveform Generator", part number MAX038.

Their General Description info says the following:

"The MAX038 is a high-frequency, precision function generator producing accurate, high-frequency triangle, sawtooth, sine, square, and pulse waveforms with a minimum of external components. The output frequency can be controlled over a frequency range of 0.1 Hz to 20 MHz by an internal 2.5 V bandgap voltage reference and an external resistor and capacitor. The duty cycle can be varied over a wide range by applying a +/- 2.3V control signal, facilitating pulse-width modulation and the generation of sawtooth waveforms. Frequency modulation and frequency sweeping are achieved in the same way. The duty cycle and frequency controls are independent.

"Sine, square, or triangle waveforms can be selected at the output by setting the appropriate code at two TTL-compatible select pins. The output signal for all waveforms is a 2V P-P signal that is symmetrical around ground. The low-impedance output can drive up to +/- 20 mA."

More info is available from Maxim at 1-800-998-8800. Digi-Key is an authorized distributor, but the chip has not shown up in their catalog yet so the price (an important parameter!) is not known. So it looks similar to the 8038 function generator chip except for the much higher operating frequency. I was thinking about making a sweep generator with it ... another great idea on my long list of projects. Would appreciate any comments from the group.....

Dave W5MHY

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 04:27:02 1994
Message-Id: <9412130302.AA29878@philadelphia.libertynet.org>
Date: Mon, 12 Dec 1994 22:02:14 -0500
From: adam@libertynet.org (Adam O'Donnell)
Subject: VFO on a chip???

Has anyone considered using the 74HC4046 PLL chip as the centerpiece of a VFO? I believe that it can run up to 12 Mhz...

Adam O'Donnell
adam@libertynet.org
N3RCS@KE3CZ.#EPA.PA.USA.NA

-- Math and alcohol don't mix. Please don't drink and derive.
-- Mathematicians Against Drunk Deriving (M.A.D.D.)

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 10:06:29 1994
From: jpo@acd4.acd.com (Jim Osburn)
Message-Id: <9412131348.AA17303@IEDV5.acd.com>
Subject: Re: VFO on a chip???
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 8:48:33 EST

Adam,

Yes, I have experimented with a 74HC4046.

First, there are two kinds of 74HC4046, the National Semiconductor parts and the RCA parts (now Harris).

The specifications are quite different, the RCA parts will work at a higher frequency than the National parts.

I played with RCA parts.

I used a pot to control the frequency. The frequency drifted a lot.

Every bit of noise on the power supply modulated the output.

Listening to the output on my receiver sounded like a buzz.

These problems could probably be solved through proper design.

Unfortunately, I was too lazy to do a proper design and built a JFET (2N4416) VFO instead.

73,

Jim, WD9EYB

>

> Has anyone considered using the 74HC4046 PLL chip as the centerpiece of a
> VFO? I believe that it can run up to 12 Mhz...

>

> Adam O'Donnell

> adam@libertynet.org

> N3RCS@KE3CZ.#EPA.PA.USA.NA

>

> -- Math and alcohol don't mix. Please don't drink and derive.

> -- Mathematicians Against Drunk Deriving (M.A.D.D.)

>

>

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 13 23:43:44 1994
From: weinfurtnr@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 14:40:10 EST
Message-Id: <00988E1F.E55B0E60.82@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu>

Subject: What does ES mean in CW?

Ohio University Electronic Communication

Date: 13-Dec-1994 02:13pm EST

To: Remote Addressee (_MX%"qrp-1@netcom.com")

From: Gregory Weinfurtner
WEINFURTNER

Dept: Modern Languages
Tel No: 614-593-2747

Subject: What does "es" mean in CW?

GM all...A heck of a good question was directed my way by Don Coleman W1VOQ, which deserves an answer...

Don asks,

"But what I'm really writing about is this: What do you, as someone who knows a thing or two about language, think that "es," as used on cw, is based on?"

Answer: My job here at Ohio University is as an Electronic Design Specialist and I'm not well versed in languages. However, I work with people who do nothing but live and breathe languages! We are on winter break here, so not to many of them around...The word "es" seems to fill in for "and" when used in CW conversations, as in "73 es CUL de Greg." The word "es" means "this is" (when used on a phone conversation) in Spanish. That is about the closest I could find to any meaning for us Ham-types. It may have meant that in the beginning in CW and maybe it "transmorgryfied" (For translation see Calvin and Hobbes cartoons...) into "and" instead of "this is"... It is awfully easy to send the combination . / ... instead of .- / -. / -... This is just a guess on my part, and I may be totally off base. (I've been there before, just ask my wife!)

I would love to hear from any CW ops who have may been around during the transistion or introduction of the "es." 73 "AND" CUL de Greg

PS:Now where did the "de" come from...?

Received: 13-Dec-1994 02:39pm